CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method of specifying settings used with a file, said method

2 comprising:

3   accessing said file using a software application, wherein associated with

4 said application are global settings applied to said file, said application

5 automatically imposing said global settings on all files associated with said

6 application by default;

7   saving a file-specific setting defined for said file, said file-specific setting

8 replacing a corresponding global setting defined by said application for said

9 file, wherein said global settings for other files associated with said application

10 are unchanged by said file-specific setting; and

11   upon subsequent accessing of said file, using said file-specific setting

12 instead of said corresponding global setting.

1   2.   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

2   accessing said file; and

3   overriding said corresponding global setting with said file-specific setting.

1   3.   The method of Claim 1 further comprising saving said file-specific

2 setting with the content of said file.

1   4.   The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

2   associating said file-specific setting with said file; and

3   saving said file-specific setting separate from the content of said file.

1   5.   The method of Claim 4 wherein said file-specific setting is saved in

2   a registry, wherein said registry comprises a hierarchical arrangement of

3   application-specific global settings and file-specific settings.

1   6.   The method of Claim 1 wherein said file-specific setting is

2   associated with the file name of said file, and wherein said file-specific setting is

3   indexed using said file name.

1   7.   The method of Claim 6 wherein said file is associated with a Web

2   page and said file name comprises a Uniform Resource Locator.

1   8.   The method of Claim 1 wherein said file-specific setting is derived

2   from the content of said file.

1   9.   The method of Claim 1 wherein the file name of said file comprises

2   a string of characters that invoke said file-specific setting.

1   10.   The method of Claim 1 wherein said file-specific setting comprises

2   display window size and position with respect to said application.

1   11.   The method of Claim 1 wherein said file comprises multiple pages

2   for display by said application, wherein said file-specific setting comprises

3   identification of a page last displayed when said file was closed.

1   12.   A system for specifying settings used with a file, said system

2   comprising:

3   a software application for accessing said file, wherein associated with

4   said application are global settings applied to said file, said application

5   automatically imposing said global settings on all files associated with said

6   application by default;

7   a software storage element for saving a file-specific setting defined for

8   said file, said file-specific setting replacing a corresponding global setting

9   defined by said application for said file, wherein said global settings for other

10   files associated with said application are unchanged by said file-specific setting,

11   and wherein upon subsequent accessing of said file said file-specific setting is

12   used instead of said corresponding global setting.

1   13.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said corresponding global setting

2   is overridden with said file-specific setting.

1   14.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said file comprises said storage

2   element so that said file-specific setting is saved with the content of said file.

1   15.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said storage element comprises a

2   reference file, wherein said file-specific setting is saved separate from the

3   content of said file.

1   16.   The system of Claim 15 wherein said storage element comprises a

2   registry, wherein said registry comprises a hierarchical arrangement in which

3   file-specific settings are sorted by application.

1   17.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said storage element is

2   associated with the file name of said file, and wherein said storage element is

3   indexed using said file name.

1   18.   The system of Claim 17 wherein said file is associated with a Web

2   page and said file name comprises a Uniform Resource Locator.

1   19.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said file-specific setting is derived

2   from the content of said file.

1   20.   The system of Claim 12 wherein the file name of said file

2   comprises a string of characters that invoke said file-specific setting.

1   21.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said file-specific setting

2   comprises display window size and position with respect to said application.

1   22.   The system of Claim 12 wherein said file comprises multiple

2   pages for display by said application, wherein said file-specific setting

3   comprises identification of a page last displayed when said file was closed.

1   23.   A method of establishing settings for a file, said method

2   comprising:

3   accessing said file, said file associated with a software application, said

4   application imposing global settings on all files associated with said application

5   by default;

6   overriding a global setting associated with said application and applied

7   to said file with a file-specific setting defined for said file, wherein said global

8   settings for other files associated with said application are unchanged by said

9   overriding; and

10   executing said file with said file-specific setting in use in lieu of said

11   global setting.

1   24.   The method of Claim 23 wherein said file-specific setting is saved

2   with the content of said file.

1   25.   The method of Claim 23 wherein said file-specific setting is saved

2   separate from the content of said file.

1   26.   The method of Claim 25 wherein said file-specific setting is saved

2   in a registry, wherein said file-specific setting is indexed in said registry using

3   said file name.

1   27.   The method of Claim 26 wherein said file is associated with a Web

2   page and said file name comprises a Uniform Resource Locator.

1   28.   The method of Claim 23 wherein said file-specific setting is

2   derived from the content of said file.

1   29.   The method of Claim 23 wherein the file name of said file

2   comprises a string of characters that invoke said file-specific setting.

1   30.   The method of Claim 23 wherein said file-specific setting

2   comprises display window size and position with respect to said application.

1   31.   The method of Claim 23 wherein said file comprises multiple

2   pages for display, and wherein said file-specific setting comprises identification

3   of a page last displayed when said file was closed.